

**Minutes of Meeting held**

**16<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**Meeting Opened: 7:40am**

**Meeting Closed: 9:10am**

Attendees: L Drummond, G Iremonger, K Fischer, R Stomaci, D McGee, A Eberhard, P Koch, R Milanese	Guests:
Apologies: L Budden, B Beattie, T Piccolo, L Stovell,	Absent:
Proxies: A Arifi	

**Chairperson's Report:**

Verbal report, no motion put forward to accept report.

**Confirmation of previous Minutes:**

**Motion:** That the Board of the GBDG accept the minutes from the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 meeting as a true and accurate record.

**Moved: K Fischer                      Seconded :A Eberhard                      Result: Carried**

**Motion:** That the Board of the GBDG accept the minutes from the Annual Planning Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 as a true and accurate record.

**Deferred to next meeting**

**Treasurers Report: –**

**Motion:** That the Board accept the Finance Report as a true and accurate record of the current financial position

**Moved: R Milanese                      Seconded: K Fischer                      Result: Carried**

**Business Arising from previous Minutes:**

- Report due from R Stomaci and L Budden – Youth Entrepreneur Concept: Verbal report – RS and LB have reached out to a service provider interstate who have a framework in place for students that may be useful for GBDG to use. P Koch asked if it was for Entrepreneurial Learning or Entrepreneurial activities. RS advised it was the latter. P Koch to approach a local high school to get more information.
- Report due from MP T Piccolo, Cr P Koch and D McGee – Market Research deliverables – See attached. Sub committee was asked to bring a brief to the next meeting.
- BIE has advised that it will cease engagement with GBDG on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021, however there are scheduled posts through to end of March/April

**Requests for noting in Minutes:**

**R Milanese requested in be noted that he feels that Superannuation for contractors could pose an issue for GBDG.**

### Deferred Board Nominations to be considered

**Motion:** That the Board of the GBDG conducts a ballot to appoint a nominee to the role of Deputy Chair and if a draw is reached the decision will be made by the toss of a coin. Nominees are D Veltman and R Stomaci.

**Moved:** K Fischer **Seconded:** P Koch **Result:** A draw was reached and coin toss held, R Stomaci correctly called the toss and was declared Deputy Chair for the remainder of the term.

**Motion:** That the Board of the GBDG conducts a ballot to appoint a nominee to the vacant roles of General Board member and if a draw is reached the decision will be made by the toss of a coin. Nominees are D Veltman, V Luke, R Van Emden

**Moved:** A Eberhard **Seconded:** P Koch **Result:** D Veltman and V Luke appointed to the Board as General Board members for the remainder of each positions term.

### Correspondence:

Email to Town of Gawler to advise Board decision on Top Tourist Town Application

Email from Hon Tammy Franks – taking 2m2 review request to the COVID-19 Response Committee, Parliamentary Select Committee

Email of cease of engagement – BIE

### Other Business:

Conference and Sponsor

Governance Training: - 2 options provided – please see attached.

S Bailey Proposal – **deferred to next meeting**

Our Town Workshop – G Iremonger gave verbal statement.

Mainstreet SA Conference –

**Motion:** That the Board pay for 2 members to attend the conference.

**Moved:** L Drummond **Seconded:** K Fischer **Result:** Carried

### Actions

To be actioned by	Task	Status/update
C Brougham	To email all quotes for conference marketing campaigns to Board for approval.	Completed
MP T Piccolo, Cr P Koch D McGee	Market Research deliverables - Sub committee was asked to bring a brief to the next meeting.	
L Budden R Stomaci	Youth Entrepreneur Concept – report due	
K Fischer	K Fischer to gain another quote and course details for Governance Training	

**Next General Meeting: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – 7:30am Gawler Civic Centre Room G3**

**Signed: L Drummond**



**Chair**

## INFORMATION / ACTION MINUTES

### GBDG Market Research Working Group Meeting Minutes

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

<b>Attendees:</b>	Tony Piccolo (TP), Paul Koch (PK), Akram Arifi (AA), Damian McGee (DM)
<b>Apologies</b>	

Item	Background/Subject	Action Item	Assigned To	Deadline / Update
1.	Proposed captured businesses	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Businesses that pay the GDDDB levy</li> <li>2. Businesses that do not pay the levy e.g. home based or micro businesses</li> <li>3. Market researchers to give due regard to bigger businesses that pay higher levy e.g. nationals &amp; multinationals although all agreed to ensure they are captured as "one" business</li> </ol>		
2.	Sample size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market researchers to advise proposed size of sample in tender with focus on being accurately representative.</li> <li>• Marker Researchers will need defined area with total number of businesses (plus home based)</li> </ul>		
3.	Questions Scope	<p>Market Researchers to draft final questions based on the proposed following prompts;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do you know the GBDG exists?</li> <li>• <i>If yes, link effectiveness question</i></li> <li>• What do you think the GBDG does?</li> <li>• If you have not used the GBDG before, what do you want from it?</li> <li>• What are 3 things you would like the GBDG to do?</li> </ul>		
4.	Information for Market Researchers	Provide general list of things the GBDG currently does	GBDG administration	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021
5.	Selection of Market Researcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for process to be open &amp; transparent</li> <li>• Discussion around expressions of interest vs open tender</li> <li>• Ideal to interview 3-4 potential researchers.</li> <li>• Lists of preferred suppliers to be sourced from LGA &amp; Business SA</li> </ul>	DM (Business SA) PK (LGA)	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021
6.	Budget	Group unsure but estimate costs of approx. \$20K		

## Executive Officer- Report

### Meetings Attended and Events

8 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – Meeting GBDG, ToG, RDA, BIH – Gawler Ec Dev Strategy, Gawler App	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – GBDG/RDA Networking Breakfast
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – Meeting L Drummond	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – BECA Board Meeting
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – GBDG ToG Monthly Meeting	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – Hub 148 Launch
16 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 - GBDG Board Meeting	1 Mar 2021 – Zoom meeting - Adelady
17 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – ToG Our Town Workshop	1 Mar 2021 – Teleconference A Moroney and T Taylor
18 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 – GBDG, BIE Zoom Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 2021 – Tammy’s Table
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2021 – Meeting L Drummond	4 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2021 – Meeting D McMannus
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2021 – ToG Council Meeting GBDG ¼ report	9 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2021 - Meeting GBDG, ToG, RDA, BIH – Gawler Ec Dev Strategy, Gawler App
23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2021 – Tammy’s Table	

### Business Updates

New Businesses to Gawler	Business Changes	New Members
Amazing Beauty and Chinese Massage		Amazing Beauty and Chinese Massage
Louise Drummond Business Communications		Louise Drummond Business Communications

### GBDG Facebook Page

Date Range	Video Views	Post Reach	Post Engagement	Total Likes	Total Page Follows
Jan 2021	5900	14996	3598	3290	3807
Feb 2021	6090	30795	6767	3458	3995

### Linkedin

Date Range	Followers	Following	Connections	Contacts
Jan 2021	1001	1023	1001	3636
Feb 2021	1007	1032	1007	3636

### Twitter

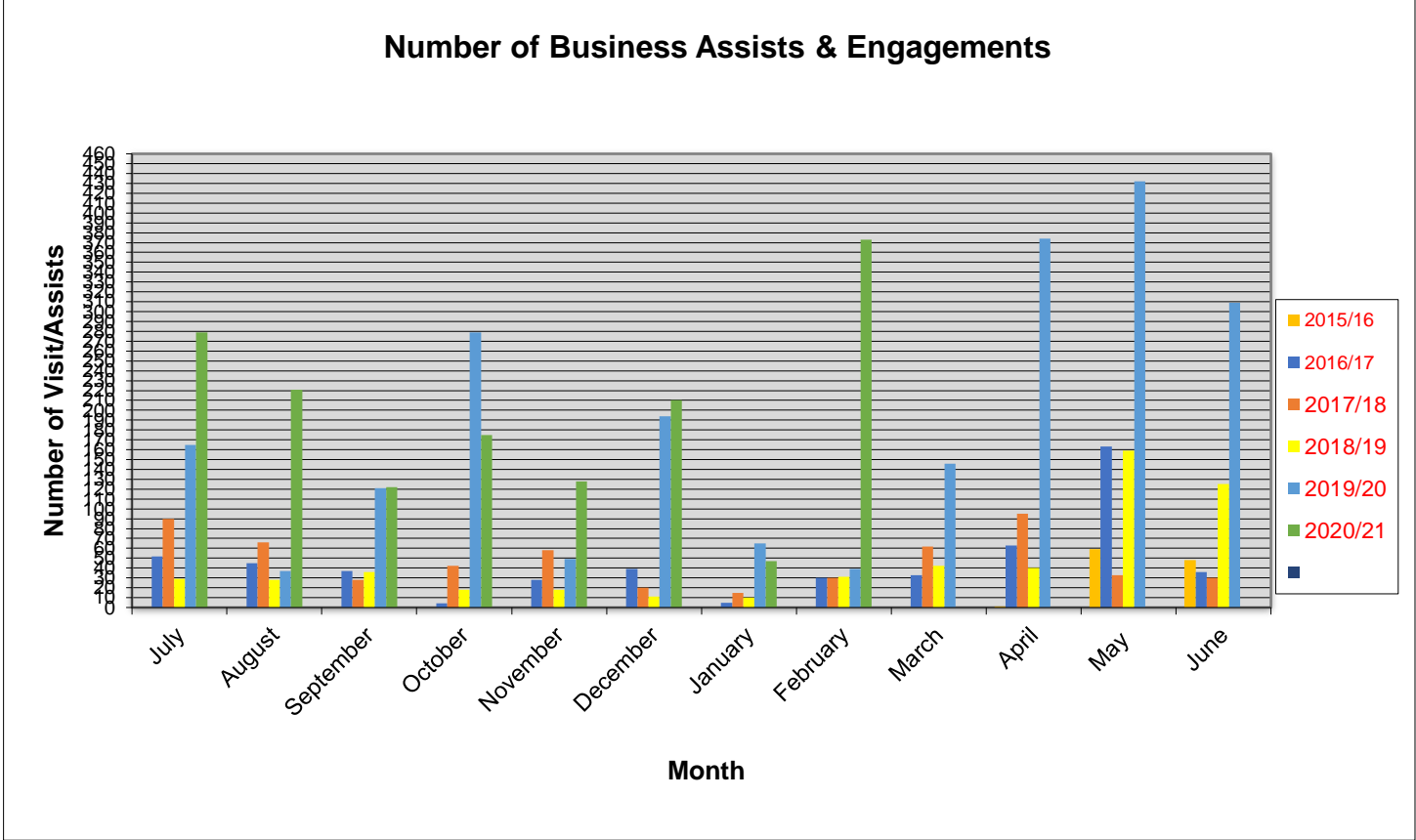
Date Range	Tweets	Retweets	Profile Visits	Followers	Followers Changes	Mentions
Jan 2021	1	0	1	61	0	0

Feb 2021	0	0	25	61	0	0
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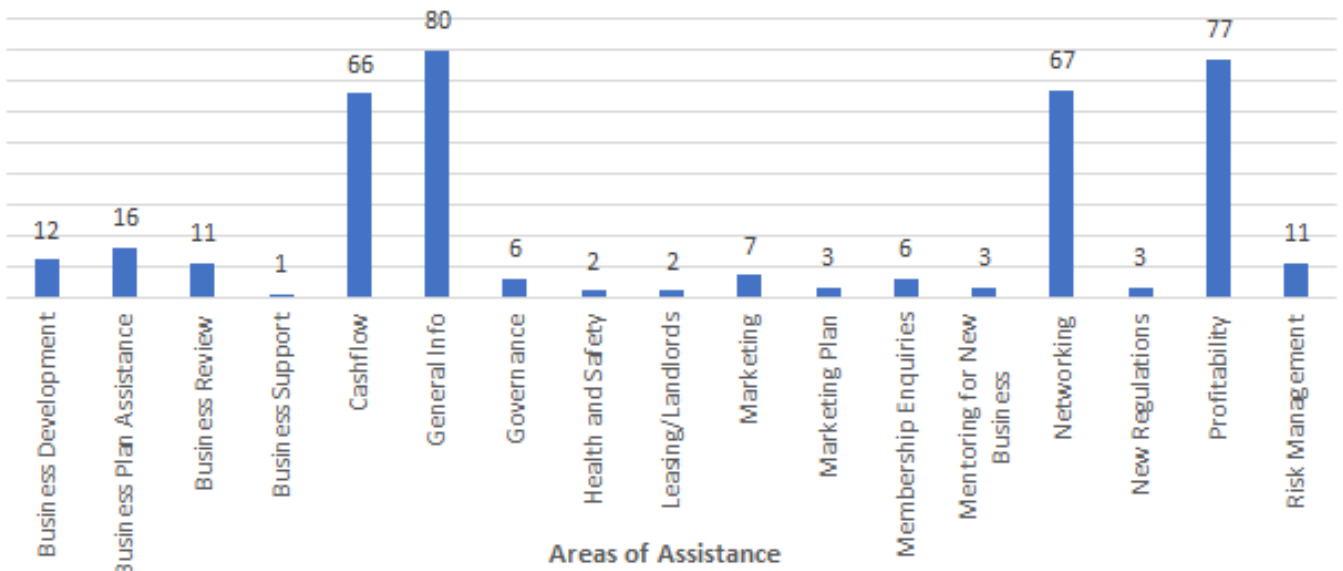
**Instagram**

Date Range	Posts	Followers	Following
Jan 2021	97	451	437
Feb 2021	123	477	437

**Business Engagement Statistics – February 373**



## Assists/Engagements February 2021



**Total Number of Assists/Engagements = 373**

## Balance Sheet as at 28 Feb 2021

### Balance Sheet

Gawler Business Development Group Inc 2  
PO Box 402, Gawler SA 5118, Australia

Accrual mode  
28 Feb 2021  
ABN: 60986486821  
Generated 11 Mar 2021

		Total
<b>Asset</b>		
<b>Banking</b>		
1-1000	ANZ Bus Extra **11045	9,389.93
1-1200	Petty cash	208.90
1-1400	ANZ Bus Online **11053	147,947.49
<b>Total Banking</b>		<b>157,546.32</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Asset</b>		<b>157,546.32</b>
<b>Liability</b>		
<b>Credit Card</b>		
2-1400	Visa C Brougham	337.66
<b>Total Credit Card</b>		<b>337.66</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
2-2200	GST collected	4,852.24
2-2400	GST paid	-2,352.69
2-2500	GST Clearing Ac	0.64
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,300.19</b>
<b>Funding</b>		
2-1560	Council levied funding	14,934.30
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>14,934.30</b>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Liability</b>		<b>17,572.15</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>139,974.17</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
<b>Current Earnings</b>		
3-1800	Current year earnings	9,392.26
<b>Total Current Earnings</b>		<b>9,392.26</b>
<b>Retained Earnings</b>		
3-1600	Members Funds - Accum Surplus-deficit	130,581.91
<b>Total Retained Earnings</b>		<b>130,581.91</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>139,974.17</b>

## Profit and Loss 28 Feb 2021

### Profit and loss

Gawler Business Development Group Inc 2  
 PO Box 402, Gawler SA 5118, Australia  
 Compared to Last Year

Accrual mode  
 01 Jul 2020 - 28 Feb 2021  
 ABN: 60986486821  
 Generated 11 Mar 2021

		Jul 20-Jun 21		
		Actual	Last Year	Var \$
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Activity Income</b>				
4-1150	Workshop-Forum Registrations	1,700.03	13.64	1,686.39 ↑
<b>Total Activity Income</b>		<b>1,700.03</b>	<b>13.64</b>	<b>1,686.39 ↑</b>
<b>Event Income</b>				
4-1160	Conference/Expo Income	-	370.90	370.90 ↓
4-1161	Project Investment/Sponsorship	-	5,454.54	5,454.54 ↓
4-1168	Gawler Music Month	-	128.18	128.18 ↓
<b>Total Event Income</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,953.62</b>	<b>5,953.62 ↓</b>
<b>Funding</b>				
4-1100	Council Receipts - Levied Fees	119,474.34	102,590.83	16,883.51 ↑
4-1110	BBRF Fund	11,334.00	36,667.00	25,333.00 ↓
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>130,808.34</b>	<b>139,257.83</b>	<b>8,449.49 ↓</b>
4-1140	Memberships	950.00	1,470.45	520.45 ↓
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>133,458.37</b>	<b>146,695.54</b>	<b>13,237.17 ↓</b>
<b>Less Cost of Sales</b>				
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>		-	-	-
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>133,458.37</b>	<b>146,695.54</b>	<b>13,237.17 ↓</b>
<b>Less Expense</b>				
<b>Administration</b>				
6-1000	Accounting and Auditing fees	2,545.15	2,589.69	44.54 ↓
6-1120	BMC Admin Contractor	43,013.25	31,987.36	11,025.89 ↑
6-1130	Admin and Marketing Officer	4,217.80	1,176.00	3,041.80 ↑
6-1518	Memberships and Licensing Expense	1,580.14	2,035.89	455.75 ↓
6-2600	Insurance	2,614.23	2,614.23	0.00
6-3610	Computer expenses - Hardware and Software	-	305.00	305.00 ↓
6-4000	Postage & courier	150.00	121.82	28.18 ↑
6-4200	Stationery & Office supplies	485.41	429.07	56.34 ↑
6-5100	Subscription & Dues	207.27	-	207.27 ↑
6-5600	Telephone	891.89	764.04	127.85 ↑
<b>Total Administration</b>		<b>55,705.14</b>	<b>42,023.10</b>	<b>13,682.04 ↑</b>
<b>Advertising &amp; Marketing</b>				
6-1121	BMC Marketing and Contractors	9,344.25	26,474.12	17,129.87 ↓
6-1200	Advertising & New Business Attraction	1,387.06	4,456.57	3,069.51 ↓
6-1201	Marketing Admin Officer	11,136.20	13,146.00	2,009.80 ↓
6-1605	Gawler App & Marketing Support for Members	150.00	-	150.00 ↑



6-1670	Digital Marketing Strategy/Campaigns	21,630.29	-	21,630.29 ↑
6-3612	IT support and Website Maintenance	1,151.98	1,759.73	607.75 ↓
<b>Total Advertising &amp; Marketing</b>		<b>44,799.78</b>	<b>45,836.42</b>	<b>1,036.64 ↓</b>
<b>Business Development</b>				
6-1145	Workshop Expense & Activity Consultants	1,296.80	791.20	505.60 ↑
6-1600	Business Support Expense and B2B	5,344.73	330.00	5,014.73 ↑
6-1900	Start Your Own Business Initiatives	-	100.00	100.00 ↓
6-1905	Business Coaching	355.00	-	355.00 ↑
6-1907	Business Development Programs	992.18	622.00	370.18 ↑
<b>Total Business Development</b>		<b>7,988.71</b>	<b>1,843.20</b>	<b>6,145.51 ↑</b>
<b>Community Support</b>				
6-1450	Community Support and Sponsorship	-	1,000.00	1,000.00 ↓
<b>Total Community Support</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>1,000.00 ↓</b>
<b>Event Expenses</b>				
6-1509	Gawler Music Month	-	3,084.46	3,084.46 ↓
6-1514	Conference/Expo Expenses	-	5,561.70	5,561.70 ↓
6-1520	Networking Events	7,442.81	456.46	6,986.35 ↑
<b>Total Event Expenses</b>		<b>7,442.81</b>	<b>9,102.62</b>	<b>1,659.81 ↓</b>
<b>GBDG Board and Other</b>				
6-1125	Board Expenses	2,302.30	2,883.84	581.54 ↓
<b>Total GBDG Board and Other</b>		<b>2,302.30</b>	<b>2,883.84</b>	<b>581.54 ↓</b>
<b>New Initiatives &amp; Projects</b>				
6-1205	Event Marketing	542.89	3,080.79	2,537.90 ↓
6-1250	BBRF Program	2,066.06	13,221.96	11,155.90 ↓
6-1701	Television commercial	-	4,863.75	4,863.75 ↓
6-1703	Christmas Promotion	3,258.22	3,229.44	28.78 ↑
<b>Total New Initiatives &amp; Projects</b>		<b>5,867.17</b>	<b>24,395.94</b>	<b>18,528.77 ↓</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>		<b>124,105.91</b>	<b>127,085.12</b>	<b>2,979.21 ↓</b>
<b>Operating Profit</b>		<b>9,352.46</b>	<b>19,610.42</b>	<b>10,257.96 ↓</b>
<b>Plus Other Income</b>				
8-1200	Interest Income	39.80	112.77	72.97 ↓
<b>Total Other Income</b>		<b>39.80</b>	<b>112.77</b>	<b>72.97 ↓</b>
<b>Less Other Expense</b>				
<b>Total Other Expense</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>		<b>9,392.26</b>	<b>19,723.19</b>	<b>10,330.93 ↓</b>

## Profit and Loss Month by Month

### Profit and loss

Gawler Business Development Group Inc 2  
PO Box 402, Gawler SA 5118, Australia

Accrual mode  
01 Jul 2020 - 28 Feb 2021  
ABN: 60986486821  
Generated 11 Mar 2021

		Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Total
<b>Income</b>										
<b>Activity Income</b>										
4-1150	Workshop-Forum Registrations	31.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	363.65	1,304.56	1,700.03
<b>Total Activity Income</b>		<b>31.82</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>363.65</b>	<b>1,304.56</b>	<b>1,700.03</b>
<b>Funding</b>										
4-1100	Council Receipts - Levied Fees	14,934.29	14,934.29	14,934.30	14,934.30	14,934.29	14,934.29	14,934.29	14,934.29	119,474.34
4-1110	BBRF Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,334.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,334.00
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>14,934.30</b>	<b>26,268.30</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>130,808.34</b>
4-1140	Memberships	250.00	150.00	195.45	154.55	150.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	950.00
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>15,216.11</b>	<b>15,084.29</b>	<b>15,129.75</b>	<b>26,422.85</b>	<b>15,084.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>15,347.94</b>	<b>16,238.85</b>	<b>133,458.37</b>
<b>Less Cost of Sales</b>										
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>		<b>15,216.11</b>	<b>15,084.29</b>	<b>15,129.75</b>	<b>26,422.85</b>	<b>15,084.29</b>	<b>14,934.29</b>	<b>15,347.94</b>	<b>16,238.85</b>	<b>133,458.37</b>
<b>Less Expense</b>										
<b>Administration</b>										
6-1000	Accounting and Auditing fees	0.00	0.00	340.91	1,854.24	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00	2,545.15
6-1120	BMC Admin Contractor	4,788.00	4,914.00	5,953.50	3,078.00	6,030.00	6,828.75	2,511.00	8,910.00	43,013.25
6-1130	Admin and Marketing Officer	169.00	168.00	420.00	420.00	86.80	336.00	1,428.00	1,190.00	4,217.80
6-1518	Memberships and Licensing Expense	662.72	564.72	64.72	64.72	64.72	119.27	39.27	0.00	1,580.14
6-2600	Insurance	2,614.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,614.23
6-4000	Postage & courier	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
6-4200	Stationery & Office supplies	114.50	90.95	0.00	0.00	79.41	32.27	168.28	0.00	485.41
6-5100	Subscription & Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.45	181.82	207.27

**Option 1**

**Leaders Institute of SA Governance Masterclass 7.5hrs \$495 per person, however, they have not yet confirmed a “group” price.**



## Is a Governance Masterclass right for you?

This Masterclass is designed for:

- ✓ current board directors
- ✓ aspiring directors
- ✓ anyone who reports to a board.

## What will you learn?

The masterclass covers:

- ✓ your legal requirements as a director under the relevant acts
- ✓ how the board agenda and board papers influence the board's attention
- ✓ how the board and management interact to produce the most effective outcomes for organisations
- ✓ how to improve group dynamics.
- ✓ the role of the chair, directors and others on the board – how and why they differ

### How do I register?

To receive details of upcoming dates, please register your interest in the Governance Masterclass.

[Register your interest](#)

## Governance Training

### Option 2

#### Governance Institute NFP Officer, Directors and The Board 3.5hrs \$6000 (plus GST) per person

The cost of the 3-hour session plus a say 30 min break is \$6,000 plus gst with minor tweaking to the course. We can off course make further changes and can advise the cost once we know the extent.

We come to your venue and you provide the AV equipment and provide any catering.

We provide full course reading materials and copies of power points to the attendees digitally prior to the session. Also, we can send an evaluation to attendees to complete if you would like the feedback.

- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March
- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- 

This practical half-day course provides participants with a sound knowledge of officer and director duties as well as the skills required to participate effectively in an Not-for-Profit (NFP) board or management committee.

This informative half-day course provides participants with:

- a sound knowledge of the core duties and legal responsibilities that apply to officers and directors in the NFP sector and the issues that affect them
- detailed knowledge of the roles and activities of a board of directors or management committee
- an understanding of the challenges faced in achieving good governance practice in the NFP sector
- strategies for implementing governance within your organisation.

Supported by a suite of resources, this course is recommended for all professionals looking to consolidate their corporate governance knowledge in the NFP sector. It is particularly designed to strengthen the knowledge and capabilities of those who interact with boards.

### Who should attend?

NFP professionals including board secretaries and managers that interact with boards, CEOs, CFOs, board and committee members, general managers treasurers and governance professionals.

## Email to Town of Gawler

Good morning all

The request for GBDG to consider submitting an application to “Top Tourist Town” was discussed at the GBDG Board meeting and it was determined that there was not sufficient time or indeed sufficient relevant information to consider an application this year and that 2022 might be a better option. Could we please request that the VIC and relevant Town of Gawler staff keep GBDG informed of events, information and activities that may be relevant to use in such an application in the future.

Kind Regards

***Caren Brougham***

**Executive Officer**

Gawler Business Development Group Inc.

**“Developing successful and sustainable businesses through marketing, advice and connection to the community”**

PO Box 402 Gawler SA 5118 |

**M: 0488 440 588 | Gawler Business Directory [www.gawler.org.au](http://www.gawler.org.au) |**



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## Media



Coffee on Jacob's Dave Knibbs runs a café in Gawler and has been affected by coronavirus restrictions.  
PHOTO: Jack Hudson

# GBDG's plea for lifting of restrictions

THE Gawler Business Development Group has penned its concerns for local business in a letter to Premier Steven Marshall and Professor Nicola Spurrer.

The letter, which was also addressed to Commissioner Grant Stevens, Dr Chris McGowan, Jim McDowell and minister for health and wellbeing Stephen Wade, was written by the GBDG's Caren Brougham as a plea to help struggling businesses.

Ms Brougham wrote "more than 20 per cent of our businesses are still struggling due to current COVID restrictions" and that the 2m<sup>2</sup> restriction must be reviewed.

"Our businesses are not a



**Jack Hudson**

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'faceless statistic' in a data report," she wrote.

"Mostly, they are family owned and operated, franchises, or part of state and national companies, who are all committed local employers and contributors to supporting the local supply chain, as well as investors in our wider community by supporting local sporting, cultural and service groups, and more, through sponsorships and donations.

"With the withdrawal of Job-Keeper only weeks away, creating another financial impact on those businesses still receiving

it, all impediments and restrictions affecting business need to be reviewed as a matter of priority.

"We urgently need our local cafes, restaurants, hotels, service groups and charities providing food, back to operating at full capacity.

"We need them back to; employing more local people, to getting their week's takings back in the 'black', supporting their local community, investing in their business, and looking forward to a brighter future."

Ms Brougham also described concerns among businesses moving forward.

"Most of our small businesses have managed to stay afloat

in an ever-changing environment, whilst all the time complying with government restrictions and requirements and will continue to comply with these," she said.

"However, many are concerned that they will not recover adequately enough to continue or return to pre-COVID levels.

"We understand public health is of paramount importance.

"Our businesses are happy to explore other ways of safeguarding the health of their staff and customers.

"We would welcome the opportunity to discuss with SA Heath other measures which may be equally effective in preventing the transmission of the COVID-19 virus."

## EDITORIAL

### Waiting on the world to change

ALMOST a year since the coronavirus reached Australia's shores, businesses are still being impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

As the pandemic drags on, many small businesses are still operating at limited capacity or have shut down completely.

Other than the stresses of living through a global pandemic, business owners are grappling with ever-changing health and safety standards, managing potentially hostile customers and spending money to restructure their physical stores to be COVID-compliant, all while bringing in significantly less revenue.

In a letter to all state members of parliament, Gawler Business Development Group executive officer Caren Brougham has called for help on behalf of local businesses.

By revealing more than 20 per cent of Gawler businesses are still struggling due to current COVID restrictions, she has urged the 2m2 restriction be reviewed.

And with the withdrawal of JobKeeper only weeks away, creating another financial impact on those businesses still

receiving it, she claims all impediments and restrictions affecting businesses need to be revised as a matter of priority.

Thoughts do go out to the Victorian businesses that keep paying the price for the shortcomings in the state's hotel quarantine system.

South Australia has certainly fared better than its neighbours across the border.

However, with many businesses operating in survival mode, the government must look to lift the restrictions needlessly hurting their bottom line.

Still, it's not all bad news as businesses are adapting daily to their new circumstances, seeing a lot of creativity amongst operators.

As the region looks to recover, inspired ideas like local photographer Daniel James Down's hopes to put Gawler on the street art map could be the change the community needs.

However, the artworks must be 'outward looking' to attract scores of visitors into town, rather than simply honouring Gawler history.

Similar projects like SA's silo art trail have successfully revived the fortunes of forgotten country towns like Coonalpyn, Kimba, Waikerie and Karoonda.

For such a concept to work, it is essential Gawler Council is supportive and the community must be open to embrace change for the greater good.